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pathogenic protozoa and group them together in a fashion that accords with proper systematic conceptions, they avoid the introduction of a mass of classificatory subdivisions which impart such a ponderous impressiveness to many texts. The descriptions of the various life histories, which are of such significance in the transmission and prevention of disease, are both vivid and accurate. Even recently elucidated phenomena, such as granule-shedding in spirochetes and in the organism of syphilis, are explained clearly so that the work may be commended for its completeness as well.

The illustrations are rather scanty, perhaps because of the limited space, and some of them are distinctly wooden in being schematic to an unnecessary degree. Or if that feature was retained by choice, then they might have been reduced considerably to make space for other figures. Thus it was surely not necessary to use a full page for a diagram of the bee's alimentary canal; every detail represented would have been equally clear in a cut half the size or even smaller. For an audience of the type to which the book appeals, an abundance of illustrations is indispensable, as the descriptions alone give a vague idea of the appearance of such unfamiliar things. This is the one weak feature in a very successful work; yet despite it the book should be recommended widely and strongly to all seeking knowledge of this new and fascinating field of recent discoveries concerning life and disease.

NOTES

THE Preliminary Report of the Institute of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene of Porto Rico summarizes the work done during an expedition to the interior. In sixty working days over 10,000 persons were thoroughly examined. The report contains an interesting table of Diseases due to Animal Parasites.

DISEASES DUE TO ANIMAL PARASITES

| | Primary | Secondary | Total |
|---|---------|-----------|-------|
| Uncinariasis (<i>Necator americanus</i>)..... | 307 | 680 | 987 |
| Ascariasis (<i>Ascaris lumbricoides</i>)..... | 44 | 555 | 599 |
| Trichuriasis (<i>Trichuris trichiura</i>)..... | 1 | 152 | 153 |
| Strongyloidosis (<i>Strongyloides stercoralis</i>)..... | | 10 | 10 |
| Balantidic Dysentery (<i>Balantidium coli</i>)..... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Oxyuriasis (<i>Oxyuris vermicularis</i>)..... | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Amebiasis (<i>Entameba histolytica</i>)..... | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Schistosomiasis (<i>Schistosoma mansoni</i>)..... | 206 | 22 | 228 |
| Malaria (<i>Plasmodium vivax</i>)..... | 2 | | 2 |
| Malaria (<i>Laverania malariae</i>)..... | 6 | | 6 |
| Filariasis (doubtful) (<i>Filaria bancrofti</i>)..... | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Elephantiasis | | 1 | 1 |
| Distomiasis (<i>Fasciola hepatica</i>)..... | | 1 | 1 |
| Flagellate diarrhea, species undetermined..... | 2 | | 2 |
| | 578 | 1,425 | 2,003 |
| Total diseases treated..... | 1,923 | 1,991 | 3,914 |

In the comment it is stated that in 1904 70 per cent. of cases at Utuado were found infected with hookworm and 90 to 98 per cent. at Mayaguez. The intensity of the infection and of the disease was much less this year. In ten years over 300,000 persons have been treated on government initiative and 200,000 on their own responsibility. Even yet 51 per cent. of all cases examined were found to be infected with hookworm.

Infection with roundworms was heavy beyond comprehension, but with comparatively few serious symptoms. Schistosomiasis was found mostly in persons living near the Vivi and Grand rivers and bathing in them. Only two foci of malaria were found, limited in area. The workers were entirely unable to find microfilaria in any case. The tropical form of ameba was not common at the time of the work.

THE International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature has finally reached a decision with regard to the spelling of the scientific name of the European hookworm. This will be welcomed by all. The confusion of some twenty variants which have burdened our recent literature, and the appeals of partisans for their particular type have grown unendurable. Even those who do not like the form chosen must welcome a decision finally. Yet despite some murmurs from outside sources that this form, *Ancylostoma*, was not well chosen,¹ and granted that the German will always spell the name with a *k* and others will follow because it sounds right to them, one may confidently predict the early and general introduction of the new form. It is simple, philologically defensible, and if pronounced after the Latin method, just what every one has used here and abroad. Undoubtedly, the most important end is to secure uniformity and for that some system is demanded.

It is equally clear that the form of ankylostoma will persist as a common name alongside of the technical form, just as the common name trichina is in constant use, though the correct scientific designation is *Trichinella*, or as one speaks of crustacea and a host of other groups which are correctly written in the scientific form with a capital letter. The process of popularizing technical terms has already gone a long ways in medicine, botany, zoology and other fields of science, and with increasing knowledge and interest will go much further in the near future. We shall come to look to authoritative bodies in each field to determine spelling and usage for us, and will adopt the decision of such commissions without discussion when we have put into practice our theory that such bodies know better what should be done than the educated outsider can possibly determine by any investigation.

In the death of von Prowazek on February 17, last, parasitology has suffered an irreparable loss. Like his distinguished predecessor, Schaudinn, and our own Ricketts, he sacrificed his life at an early age in the pursuit of his investigations undertaken in the interest of science and humanity. When typhus broke out in a German prison camp he entered upon a study of the disease and fell a victim to it. As a brilliant thinker, a keen investigator and a voluminous writer he has already exercised a dominant influence on the development of this field of science. By virtue of work which has no limits in country or time and serves all nations for all ages, he was a benefactor of the whole world and will be honored as such.

1. Editorial, Jour. Am. Med. Assn., March 27, 1915, p. 1081.